(c) whether Government are also aware of invasion of Junk Foods with very poor and low nutritional value which have invaded the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of Wheat from America

1398. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the import of one million tonnes of wheat from U.S., India would be paying a sum of Rs. 60 crores as shipping charges as against around Rs. 146 crores as the wheat price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in 'Patriot', of 11th June, 1988 under the caption "Leak of wheat import decision to cost India crores of ruppes extra";

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) and (b) The estimated F.O.B. cost of one million tonnes of wheat (contracted in April, 1988) comes to about Rs. 146.32 crores and the total freight for this quantity would be Rs. 60 crores or thereabout, depending on freight levels that would prevail from time to time till despatch of the last ship.

(c) to (e) Government have seen the report referred to. Freight level depends upon various factors such as supply and demand, etc. which keep changing from time to time. Import of one million tonnes of wheat by India was contracted in April, 1988, whereas the international freight market started recovering towards end of 1987.

Prices of Vanaspati

1399. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vanaspati manufacturers give any undertaking to Government regarding stability of the prices; if so, the details of prices agreed upon and prevailing;

(b) whether Vanaspati manufacturers are getting imported edible oil from the STC (State Trading Corporation) at uniform price to maintain uniformity of prices throughout the country;

(c) whether sales tax paid by Vanaspati manufacturers on the sale of the imported oil by the STC is reimbursed by Government agencies; and

(d) if so, the amount of reimbursed during the years 1985, 1986 & 1987 alongwith the details about state-wise reimbursement allocation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) A voluntary price arrangement has been in effect from the 26th of August, 1987 on the basis of an assurance from the Vanaspati Manufacturers Association and the Indian Vanaspati Producers Association according to which the maximum consumer price of a 15 kg. tin of Vanaspati is Rs. 335/- plus local taxes.

(b) The current STC issue price for imported edible oils to the Vanaspati industry is Rs. 15,000 PMT for the regular allocations and Rs. 19,000/- PMT for the commercial allocations.

(c) STC reimburses sales tax to vanaspati units on the sale of imported oils subject to certain conditions-

(d) Information is being collected.

1400. [*Transferred to the 16th August*, 1988].

Monitoring of Food Supplies through Public Distribution System

1401. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goevrnment's attention has been drawn to the news item published in 'Hindu' on 8th July, 1988 regarding the need for "Nutritional security" with particular reference to the concern of the International Scientist, Dr. M. S. Swaminathan for monitoring food supplies through public distribution system; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) and (b) Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in Hindu' of 8th July, 1988. The PDS built up over the years alongwith buffer stocking of foodgrains has emerged as a principal instrument of Government policy in making available food items to the common man at reasonable prices, thus making a significant contribution to the nutritional standard of the poor. Food supplies made through Public Distribution System in the country are being monitored continuously at the centre, State/UT and district levels.

Development Plan for Cities and Towns in Uttar Pradesh

1402. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of cities and towns of Uttar Pradesh for which development plans have been formulated by Government and the total amount allocated for this purpose during the last three years; and

(b) what are the details of these development plans of these cities and towns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Appropriate Urban Development Plans/Projects are formulated and implemented by State Governments in accordance with their needs and priorities out of their annual plan provisions. Besides central financial assistance is provided under the two Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) and Urban Basic Service (UBS). Under IDSMT which, *inter alia*, include Land Acquisition and development, Sites and Services, Traffic and Transportation, Markets and Mandies, Low Cost Sanitation etc., 23 towns from Uttar Pradesh were included till the end of 6th Plan and 12 more have been included during the 7th Plan. Rs. 502.954 lakhs were released to U.P. during 1985-88 as instalments of Central assistance for on-going projects from 6th Plan as well as new projects. Under UBS Scheme which aims at improving the degree and quality of survival and development of children of urban low income families, eight towns in Lucknow district have been selected for project implementation during the 7th Plan. The State Government has not so far approached for any release of funds. Two World Bank assisted projects, namely Uttar Pradesh Urban Development Project and Kanpur Urban Development Project with components such as Sites and Services, Slum Upgrading, Area Development Traffic Engineering, Drainage, Water Supply and Sewerage, Low Cost Sanitation etc. are also under implementation.